



NEW LIFE

BIBLE-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

44 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6NN

Charity No. 1060655

Tel: 020 7328 0869 (Manse); 020 7372 6858 (Office)

Email: newlifebplondon@yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.newlifebpc.co.uk

Visiting Pastor: Rev Lim Chee Boon 07909 612215

Administrator: Mok Chee Cheong 07921 929515

"For the Word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Rev 1:9)

Vol. 10 No. 29

LORD'S DAY 16 JULY 2006

Dear Readers,

THE A-S-K OF PRAYERS

"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." (James 4:3)

As a young boy I followed my parents to temples to offer prayers to idols and icons, and practice ancestor worship at home. During festive seasons, we burnt joss sticks and incense papers, and offered animal sacrifices to the so-called gods with the expectations that our prayers would be answered. These pagan practices persist till today. Without Christ, I would probably still be living in the darkness of pagan worship, which will certainly put me through a life-long rejection of God. Prayer then, was only a means to getting something which we wanted.

The Apostle James reminded his readers that prayer is not just asking for what we want. Prayer is first and foremost a personal communication. It is relational by nature. To put it simply, when we treat prayer as a means of just getting something we want, we are in for disappointment! *"Ye ask, and receive not!"* Our Heavenly Father opens this personal communication channel to all His children. He loves to listen to us just as an earthly father longs to listen to his children lovingly.

The kind of communication pattern between parents and their children speaks of the closeness of the parent-child relationship. When our children approach us only to ask for things per se, it certainly does not augur well for this parent-child relationship. However, when our children approach us to share their feelings and their life with us, it creates a sense of belonging and mutual trust. Parents need to listen to their children patiently, and children need to come to their parents to share their thoughts and feelings confidently. In this way, when the children receive what they need from their parents, they will learn to be thankful and appreciative of what they receive.

Therefore the first attribute of proper prayer is **Attitude**. When we pray, check our attitude before the Holy God. Do we come to our Heavenly Father in humble adoration and with humility to yield to His holy will? Do we come to our Heavenly Father just to demand for things that we think we deserve? Do we come with selfish requests to fulfil our own lusts? Our attitude before God counts. James provides the reason why we often do not receive what we ask for: *"ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts!"* We miss the whole point about prayer if we only come to our Heavenly Father to ask for selfish gains. Anything that does not go in line with God's plan will not be answered.

"For thou, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, I will build thee an house: therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee." (2 Samuel 7:27)

David testified in 2 Samuel 7:27 that it was God who revealed His plan to him so that he could confidently pray for God's blessings to be upon his house and his household (family). The Lord also impressed upon David that he should build a temple for the Lord. However, God later revealed to him that he was not the chosen one to build the temple, but Solomon his son was...

Continued on Page 2...

the one to build the temple for God. David continued to walk with the Lord, and he made preparations for the building materials and resources for Solomon to carry out the holy project of building the temple of God later. Check on your attitude before you pray, and make sure that you pray as God reveals to you in accordance with His will.

The second attribute of proper prayer is **Simplicity**. Faith is taking God at His Word. When we pray, we must also exercise faith in our prayer-answering God. Therefore, it is important to be equipped with a deep knowledge of God's Word. Many Christians fail to understand that God expects us to simply trust Him and that He will answer us in accordance with His own will and wisdom. Instead of yielding to God simply, we often have tussles with God, and practically demand to get what we want. Our loving Heavenly Father will grant us what we need, but not what we want! When we learn to yield to His will, it will be easier to understand and accept negative answers from God. We have got to believe that God loves us more than we love ourselves to offer His best to us. It is always easier to see God's perspective from hindsight; however, over time, God wants us to learn to see His perspective with foresight.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

We ought to see our future through the eyes of faith, simply trusting that God will offer us His best in accordance with His timing. Every prayer is unique. Our God is a creative God, and He will answer each prayer in the most unique fashion in order that we may learn precious truths from it and become a living testimony for Him. The next time when you pray, check your attitude before God, and pray with, and in, simplicity.

Finally, the third attribute of proper prayer is **Knowledge**. Some people say, "*Knowledge is Power!*" They think that knowing something which others do not will put them in a better position to control the situation. The kind of knowledge that enables one to control others is not what we mean by saying that prayer is knowledge. The kind of knowledge about who God is, and what He wants to do with our life is the key to effectual prayers.

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Here James indicates that when a person knows who God is and what God wants to do with his life; he is considered as a righteous man. The righteous man is empowered by God's knowledge, knowing that what he prays with the right attitude and in simplicity, trusting that God's will is best, will be answered! There is nothing philosophical in this statement. This is also not a play of words, for in God's grand scheme of answered prayers there is no cloud of uncertainty.

"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God." (Colossians 1:9-10)

This prayer of the Apostle Paul for the Colossians sets us an example. He knew about the spiritual progress of the Colossians; and so he prayed for them specifically that they *"might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding!"* Wow! What a wonderful prayer! Prayer is Knowledge – our knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. Paul was so confident that he was praying the right prayer for the Colossians that he further added in his prayer that the Colossians *"might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God"*. Knowledge begets knowledge. The more we know God, the more effectively we will pray.

The next time before you pray, check on your attitude before God, then pray in simplicity with the knowledge of who God is and what He wants to do with your life. Your prayer life will never be the same again. This is the A-S-K of prayers. Try it!

The Christian's Daily Remembrancer

by Ps. James Smith

16 July 2006

"Be clothed with humility" 1 Peter 5:5

"WITHOUT ME YE CAN DO NOTHING." Thus said the Lord. It is of great importance to have and to cherish right views of our own nothingness and insignificance; of our vileness and unworthiness; of our absolute dependence on the mercy of our God; to possess a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price; so that we may be humble under adverse circumstances, considering our sin and ill deservings, how we have offended our Lord. Let us see the hand of God working all in all, acknowledging that divine providence appoints instruments for God's higher purposes and let us be content with our lot, with such things as we have, cherishing godliness with contentment as great gain. Let us be habitually looking at the Lord Jesus, what He was in His ancient glory, what He becomes of us, what He now is, and that we shall soon be with Him. Humility is the best garment for a justified sinner to wear, for God had said He will look to and dwell with the humble. He giveth grace unto the humble. He that humbleth himself shall be exalted. He will hear the cry and grant the desire of the humble person and save him. This is His precious promise.

Jesus, from my proud heart remove

The bane of self admiring love!

O make me feel and own with shame,

I less and worse than nothing am!

The least of saints with pity see,

The chief of sinners save, in me!

O Lord our God, forbid that we
Should always little children be;
But may our path shine more, we pray,
And more unto the perfect day.

In Green Pastures

Devotional Readings for Every Day of the Year

By J.R. Miller, D.D.

16 July 2006

MORNING

1 CORINTHIANS 8:13 "Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

IT is not enough to know that a certain course is not wrong, that we have a right to do certain things.

If there were no other people in the world but ourselves, none to be considered in deciding what we might do or may not do, it would be easy to settle on our duty. But there are other people everywhere, and we have got to think of them in deciding what we have a right to do.

A man has a right to have a big, bawling talking-machine in his house, and to have it going every night till midnight. It is nobody's matter but his own. But suppose there is a sick man living next door, and that the noise of the machine disturbs him at night, what is the duty of the man with the talking-machine?

Love comes in then, and tells him he must give up his "right" and sacrifice his pleasure for the sake of another. Love is a most exacting master. It makes us give up our rights and our pride and our ease—nothing can stand before it.

EVENING

PRAYER WITHOUT PROMISE

THERE are human lives that never learn to sing the songs of faith and peace and love until they enter the darkness of sorrow and trial. Would it be true love for these for God to hear their prayer for the removal of every sorrow and pain? There is no promise for the prayer that God would take out of our life, out of any life, the hindrances, the griefs, the bitternesses. If we pray such a prayer, it must be simply a humble, shrinking request, which we shall refer at once, without undue urging, to the wise and perfect will of God.

WELCOME TO NEW LIFE B-P CHURCH LONDON

**CHURCH THEME: STRIVING TO LIVE ABOVE OUR SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
IN CHRIST (Ephesians 1:3)**

Our worship services begin promptly at **11.00 am and 4.00 pm**.

Please stay back for Bible Study and fellowship lunch after the morning worship and for tea after the evening service. Do invite your friends to come to Church.

Worship Services			WELCOME
Morning	Today: 16/07/2006	Next Week: 23/07/2006	
<i>Chairman:</i>	Jonathan Kim	Seetoh Yoong Chiang	
<i>Speaker:</i>	Rev Lim Chee Boon	Rev Lim Chee Boon	
<i>Message:</i>	Christ was Anointed	Christ's Triumphant Entry	
<i>Text:</i>	John 12:1-11	John 12:12-26	
<i>Organist:</i>	Yanning	Anthony	
Evening			
<i>Chairman:</i>	John Poh	Alvin Chow	
<i>Speaker:</i>	Rev Lim Chee Boon	Rev Lim Chee Boon	
<i>Message:</i>	The Significant of the Blood	The Sign of the Rainbow	
<i>Text:</i>	1 Peter 1:13-25	Genesis 9:1-17	
<i>Pianist:</i>	Ming Yann	Anthony	

Other Duties

	Today	Next Week
<i>Ushers</i>	John/Daniel	Alvin/Ming Yann
<i>Sunday Sch:</i>	Lynn	Yanning
<i>Lunch:</i>	Constance Morton	Maureen Poh
<i>Washing-up:</i>	YAF Group 1	Prema/Yetta
<i>Bible Study:</i>	DHW – Genesis 25	DHW – Genesis 25

Appointments of the Week

Wed 19 July	7:30 pm	Mid Week Prayer Meeting: C'man: Rev Lim
Fri 21 July	7.00 pm	Young Adults Fellowship: Led by Rev Lim
Sat 22 July	4.00 pm	Prayer Meeting & Bible Study: Spkr/C'man: Rev Lim

Last Week's Worship Service Collections

Offering:	£260.52	Lunch:	£29.90
------------------	---------	---------------	--------

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We extend a warm welcome to all worshippers this Lord's Day morning. 	<p>NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray for journey mercies: For those who are travelling. Also, pray for those who are away, remembering Mok & Carol in Singapore. • Continue to pray for those who are sick: Also, continue to pray for Rev Lim, for his general health. • Visa Application: Continue to pray for Mok as he applies for a missionary/ minister's visa while in Singapore. • Maasai Mission: Continue to pray for Sis Chan Pui Meng – for God's protection to be with her and for blessing in her clinic ministry to the Maasai people. • Prayer Meetings: Please purpose in your heart to come every Wednesday and Saturday for a time of corporate prayer and bible study. Prayer is the spiritual power house of the church. We need more prayer warriors like you.
	<p>~~~~~</p> <p><i>Lord, for tomorrow and its needs I do not pray; Keep me, my God, from stain of sin just for today. Help me to labour earnestly and duly pray; Let me be kind in word and deed, Father, today.</i></p>